of Singapore to India on April 8, 2003. According to this Declaration of Intent, negotiations for the India- Singapore CECA should begin as soon as possible and aim to conclude with the signing of the relevant agreements as early as possible. The CECA, when negotiated and implemented, is expected to be of mutual benefit to both the countries in view of the extent of economic complementarities existing between the two countries.

Steps to increase Exports

3117. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite best and serious efforts, exports still constitute only a small percentage compared to other developed countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to increase India's share in the World market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) India's export share in the World merchandise exports is growing continuously. In 1992-93 India's share of World merchandise exports was only 0.41%, as per WTO report. This increased to 0.67% in 2000 and 0.7% in 2001.

(c) A medium term Export Strategy which is co-terminus with the Tenth plan period (2002—07) was announced in January, 2002 with the objective of achieving 1% share in World exports. In line with this strategy, a number of programmes/schemes have been launched which include schemes like Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure (ASIDE), establishing Agri Export Zones, Market Access Initiative, strengthening "Focus LAC" programme, introducing "Focus Africa" programme, etc. In the Exim Policy 2003-04, besides, the focus on Service exports, policies have been devised to strengthen Special Economic Zones (SEZs), 100% Export Oriented Units (EOU's), etc. A new programme called "Focus CIS" has been introduced. Thus measures are being taken from time to time to increase India's share in World exports.

WTO Ministerial Summit at Cancun

3118. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the next WTO Ministerial Summit is due to meet at Cancun and if so, when;

(b) whether it is a fact that developed countries have taken a tough posture regarding the grant of concession to developing countries on SPS, market access, special and differential treatment etc; and

(c) if so, the stand proposed to be taken by India at the Summit to make it a success?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) The next WTO Ministerial Conference is scheduled to be held in Cancun, Mexico from 10-14 September 2003.

(b) and (c) In accordance with the mandate provided in the Doha Ministerial Declaration, negotiations on various issues included in the Doha Work Programme are taking place in the relevant WTO negotiation/regular bodies. In respect of most of the issues covered by the Doha Work Programme the progress has been uneven. In particular, the deadlines given by the Ministers on three issues of importance to the developing countries, namely, TRIPS and Public Health; Special and Differential Treatment; and the Implementation-related issues and concerns could not be adhered to. India and other developing countries have strongly voiced their concerns in the WTO on the slow progress of the negotiations in these areas.

Besides the above-mentioned issues of concern/interest to developing countries, negotiations on market access for agricultural products, non-agricultural products and services are also taking place in the respective WTO Negotiating Bodies. India has been actively participating in these negotiations and putting forward its views on the various issues covered by these negotiations. India and other developing countries have strongly emphasised on the need for providing adequate Special and Differential treatment in these negotiations for the developing countries. At Cancun, India would continue to call upon the WTO Members to fully preserve the development focus of the Doha mandate in the ongoing negotiations.

Increasing demand of coffee in Japan

3119. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for coffee in Japan has hit a new high with imports of coffee touching 4,40,000 tonnes of Green, Roasted, Instant and concentrate varieties;